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Page 1 of 3

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TO

U.S. Patent and Trademark Office

Group Art Unit 3765 - Attn: Examiner Gloria HALE

FROM

Greenblum & Bernstein, P.L.C.

James L. Rowland, Reg. No. 32,674

DATE

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December 14, 2005

SUBJECT

U.S. Pat. Appln No. 10/634,780, filed August 6, 2005

Attorney Docket No. P24002

Examiner Hale:

Accompanying this cover sheet is a two-page paper entitled "Request for Withdrawal of Premature Final Rejection."

Thank you for your consideration.

Respectfully submitted,

James Rowland

Telephone No.: (703) 716-1191 Fax No.: (703) 716-1180

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DEC 14 2005

U.S. Patent Application No. 10/634,780 P24002.A09 (S 1077/US)

PATENT APPLICATION IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicants : Aurélie CHAIX et al. Group Art Unit 3765 Appln. No. ; 10/634,780 Examiner Gloria HALE Docket No. : P24002 Confirmation No. 7632 Customer No.: 07055 Filed : August 6, 2003 Title : GARMENT HAVING PROTECTION FOR THE BUST

REQUEST FOR WITHDRAWAL OF PREMATURE FINAL REJECTION

U.S. Patent and Trademark Office Customer Service Window, Mail Stop AF Randolph Building 401 Dulany Street Alexandria, VA 22314

Sir:

Pursuant to the guidelines presented in the Manual of Patent Examining Procedure (MPEP), Section 706.07(d), Applicants kindly request that the final rejection issued on September 14, 2005 be withdrawn as being premature. Applicants' reasons are as follows.

Page 5, lines 9-12 of the immediately preceding Office action, i.e., the Office action of March 11, 2005, explains that

> Claims 4 and 18 [are] objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. Claims 4 and 18 claim a hydrophilic treatment. which is not disclosed by the cited references.

U,S. Patent Application No. 10/634,780 P24002.A09 (S 1077/US)

In their reply filed on May 26, 2005, Applicants amended independent claims 1 and 10 by incorporating therein the subject matter of allowable claims 4 and 18, respectively.

On page 2 of the final Office action of September 14, 2005, independent claims 1 and 10, inter alia, are rejected under 35 USC §112, first paragraph, for failing to comply with the enablement requirement. Specifically, the rejection provides that "[i]n regard to the 'hydrophilic treatment' it is not clear as to what the treatment encompasses."

Further, on page 3 of the final Office action, claims 1 and 10 are rejected under 35 USC §112, second paragraph, based upon the same reasoning.

MPEP §706.07(a), entitled "Final Rejection, When Proper on Section Action," explains that "second or any subsequent actions on the merits shall be final, except where the examiner introduces a new ground of rejection that is neither necessitated by applicant's amendment of the claims nor based on information submitted in an information disclosure statement"

Because Applicants' amendment of claims 1 and 10 was made merely for the purpose of placing claims 1 and 10 in condition for allowance consistent with the Examiner's determination in the Office action of March 11, 2005 regarding the Allowability of claims 4 and 18, which recited the aforementioned hydrophilic treatment, the new grounds of rejection, viz., the rejections under §112, were not necessitated by Applicants' amendment and, therefore, the final rejection was premature.

Any comments or questions concerning this application can be directed to the undersigned at the telephone or fax number given below.

> Respectfully submitted, Aurélie CHAIX et al.

> > when

James L. Rowland Reg. No. 32,674

December 14, 2005 GREENBLUM & BERNSTEIN, P.L.C. 1950 Roland Clarke Place Reston, VA 20191

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